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Report of the Secretary-General on the Development of Public Information Activities in the Field of Human Rights Including the World Public Information Campaign for Human Rights

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

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Introduction

1. As the Department that has primary responsibility for information activities, the Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat coordinates and initiates public information activities for the World Public Information Campaign for Human Rights and, as secretariat to the Joint United Nations Information Committee, promotes system-wide information activities in the field of human rights. The Department continues its multi-media approach to ensure the effective coverage of United Nations human rights activities as well as worldwide distribution of relevant information materials. During 1992 this work was increasingly oriented towards the preparations for the World Conference on Human Rights in June 1993 and the 1993 International Year of the World's Indigenous People.

2. In the 1992-1993 programme budget, the Department continues to have a mandate under the thematic heading of human rights. It also continues other mandated programmes in such related areas as social, cultural and economic rights; rights of specific groups; and other major issues including, inter alia, activities against apartheid, the question of Palestine, self-determination, decolonization and the advancement of women. The Department's related activities are regularly reported to the General Assembly and to other intergovernmental bodies under each specific area or issue.

I. ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS DURING 1992

3. The multi-media approach of the Department in the field of human rights includes, inter alia, production of printed material, films, radio and television programmes, photos and exhibits; undertaking press coverage of all intergovernmental meetings on human rights; holding of press conferences and briefings; initiating contacts with the media; answering public inquiries; holding special events and other activities; collaborating with non-governmental organizations; utilizing the resources of the 67 United Nations information centres and services; and inter-agency co-productions.

4. It should be noted that most of these activities are not funded under the programme budget thematic heading of human rights (section 31.15) but under other sections of the programme budget.

5. Resources amounting to $206,000 were included in section 31.15 of the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993 specifically for public information promotional services on human rights.

6. During 1992 activities undertaken included the commemoration of Human Rights Day; the production of print materials such as pamphlets, background material, booklets, feature articles, posters, logo sheets and brochures regarding the work of the United Nations in the field of human rights; outreach and liaison with the media and non-governmental organizations to promote the work of the organization concerning human rights; translations of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; reprints and new language translations of human rights instruments; publication of the biannual subscription and sales publication entitled Objective: Justice and continued acquisition of documentation and development of reference services on human rights at the libraries of the United Nations information centres and services.

A. World Conference on Human Rights

7. The Department's programme for public information activities and information coverage aimed specifically at promoting the World Conference on Human Rights made significant progress during 1992. A separate budget of $400,000 has been allocated for these activities, including coverage of the Conference itself. The following activities have been undertaken as part of the public information campaign to promote the Conference:

(a) A pre-Conference illustrated brochure on the aims and purposes of the Conference (DPI/1273) was published in August 1992 in the six official languages plus German; 40,000 copies have been distributed so far;

(b) A multi-colour poster for the Conference (DPI/1226) was produced and distributed in July 1992 in the six official languages plus German; 21,500 copies have been distributed so far;

(c) A press information kit (DPI/1279) on human rights issues and United Nations efforts to promote and protect human rights -- within the context of the preparations for the Conference -- was distributed in time for the observance of Human Rights Day, 10 December 1992, in English, French and Spanish. It was aimed mainly at a select list of media and NGO organizations worldwide. More than 7,000 copies have so far been distributed and a reprint, with additional material, is under way. The contents of the kit include the following feature articles: "United Nations Mechanisms to Protect Human Rights" (DPI/1290), "Providing Human Rights Technical Assistance" (DPI/1274), "Human Rights and Development" (DPI/1275), "Human Rights and Humanitarian Assistance" (DPI/1291), "Human Rights and the Girl Child" (DPI/1284) and "Eliminating Torture" (DPI/1292). Two reproducible photostats of the Conference logo design in all official languages is also contained in the kit. One half of the kit comprises materials on the International Year of the World's Indigenous People (see 13 (d) below);

(d) Because of the heavy demand, another information kit containing some new material is being prepared. This will be available in English, French and Spanish in April. One of the items for inclusion in this new kit, the agenda for the Conference, is already being distributed;

(e) A series of feature articles is being issued periodically within the United Nations Focus series (in English, French and Spanish), to cover in greater detail human rights issues and the issues before the Conference. These are targeted primarily at the mass media. Titles distributed so far include: "Ending Discrimination: A Fundamental Right" (DPI/1008); "International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families" (DPI/1112); "The Quest for Women's Rights" (DPI/1144); "List of States Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women" (DPI/1145/Rev.1); "Violence against Women in the Home, the Work Place and Society" (DPI/1174); "Changing the Status Quo, the UN's Work for Women" (DPI/1191); "Human Rights and the Family" (DPI/1203); "Apartheid: South Africa" (DPI/1281); and on women and human rights (DPI/1327);

(f) A black-and-white print public service announcement (PSA) has been developed, based on the design of the Conference poster, for free placement in magazines and newspapers. So far the ad has run in Atlantic and Human Rights Quarterly. A number of other publications, including Time, Newsweek, Readers Digest and Business Week, have copies of the ad to run as space permits. United Nations information centres have been requested to place it in local or regional print media and members of the United Nations family have been asked to publish it in their periodicals;

(g) A special eight-page supplement on the issues before the Conference and pre-Conference activities will be printed in the March edition of the periodical United Nations Chronicle, which appears in the six official languages. Additional copies of this supplement will be distributed separately to the media and NGOs worldwide in all six languages;

(h) A special edition of the publication Notes for Speakers will be available in April 1993 in English, French and Spanish. This reference tool is aimed at educators, NGOs and others who might be making presentations about the United Nations work in the field of human rights in connection with preparations for the Conference and contains succinct material suitable for quoting in speeches or lectures;

(i) Local information programmes are being carried out by selected centres among the network of 67 United Nations information centres (UNICs) and information services. These programmes include the organization at the national level of information activities to promote the Conference. Seed money has been provided to centres for these activities. (Further information on these activities is contained in section II.B below.);

(j) A series of eight special 15-minute radio feature documentaries in the six official United Nations languages is being produced within the Perspective series, to highlight the issues before the Conference. The series will be distributed in March 1993 to broadcasters worldwide;

(k) A number of UN in Action television programmes have been produced on human rights issues for use on the Cable News Network (CNN) weekly programme World Report, which is seen in 90 countries. The Department has also distributed these in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish to additional broadcasters worldwide;

(l) The half-hour television interview programme World Chronicle has interviewed the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights on preparations for the Conference and plans to interview other leading personalities in the field of human rights on issues associated with the World Conference;

(m) A series of television "spots" is being prepared for the Department on a pro bono basis by an advertising agency in Amsterdam for broadcast on SuperChannel, the London-based pan-European broadcaster. Another series is being prepared on a co-production basis with the Department by Citurna Ltda. in Colombia. These latter will be distributed by the producers to broadcasters throughout Latin America. Selected spots from both series will also be distributed through the Asia/Pacific Broadcasting Union and the Caribbean Broadcasting Union as well as to UNICs for additonal national distribution;

(n) Contacts have been made with a number of television networks in a variety of countries concerning human rights programming for broadcast before or around the time of the Conference. For example, SuperChannel has agreed to broadcast human rights programming throughout the month of June;

(o) The Department provided radio and press coverage of the African and Latin American and the Caribbean Regional Preparatory meetings and will undertake similar coverage of the Asian meeting to be held in March. Regular television, radio and press coverage is also being provided for all the Preparatory Committee meetings for the Conference. Plans for the Department to undertake press, radio and television coverage of the Conference itself are well advanced;

(p) The Department intends to hold a pre-Conference journalists' encounter at the site immediately before the Conference. All journalists accredited to cover the Conference will be invited to attend and they will be briefed on the main issues on the Conference agenda. No funding was provided in the special Conference budget for fellowships to bring journalists from developing countries to attend the Conference, but the Department will contribute $25,000 from its regular budget to assist journalists from developing countries, who would not have otherwise been able to attend, to cover the Conference.

B. International Year of the World's Indigenous People

8. Human Rights Day, 10 December 1992, was the launch of the International Year of the World's Indigenous People. The Department responded to an enormous number of requests for information concerning the launch of the Year from the media, NGOs, educational institutions and individuals and continues to do so. The Department provided full press coverage of the opening ceremonies in the General Assembly Hall and provided to each of the 21 indigenous speakers a package of information material including a photograph, video and sound tape of the speaker's statement in the General Assembly. The Department continues to make available on request copies of the press releases, audio and video tapes and photographic coverage of the event.

9. On the evening of 10 December, the Department organized a special cultural event for the launch of the Year which featured indigenous musicians and dancers including: the Silver Cloud Singers, the Thunderbird American Indian Dancers and Spiderwoman Theatre, all from the United States; Mari Boine, a Norwegian Saami singer; Earth Savers, a Filipino

tribal dance company; Egon Sikevat, an Inuit drummer and singer from Greenland; Inca Son, an Andean music group from Peru; and Yothu Yindi, an aboriginal rock band from Australia. Buffy Sainte-Marie, an indigenous singer, was Emcée. More than 700 people attended the cultural event and the reception which the Department organized to follow. The event was co-sponsored by the Centre for Human Rights, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the United Nations Environmental Programme, the International Labour Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. The Governments of Australia, Canada, Greenland, Norway and the Philippines sponsored the travel of some of the indigenous performers. IBM provided a small grant for refreshments for performers during the afternoon rehearsals for the event.

10. The event was covered by the following media organizations: Associated Press, the New York Times, BBC-TV, CNN, WTN, New York 1, CBS, NHK, Univision, ORF Austrian Radio and TV, Monitor Radio, Danish TV, Norwegian Broadcasting Corp. TV, Global Vision, Fumisankei TV, Levande Bilder-Swedish Production TV, Sound Horizons Audio Video Inc., Sage Productions Inc. Video, White Buffalo Multi-Media, Wittenberg Productions Video, Clear Light Publishers, Greenland TV, Fuji Sankei TV, Kevin Biles Productions TV, Dragonfly Blue Productions, Video Sphere, Interlock Media Associates, Great Plains Productions Inc., New York University Video, Globo TV Brazil, ZDF TV Germany, ARD TV Germany and Black Beat. Still photographers covering the event included: Australian Magazine, Clear Light Publishers, KWIZ-FM Photo, LGI Agency, Star File Photo Agency, New York Post, Barry Morgenstein Photography, and Elle Magazine.

11. On 9 December the Department held a press conference concerning the launch of the Year which featured the Coordinator for the Year, Mr. Antoine Blanca, and three indigenous representatives. About 30 members of the news media attended.

12. On 11 December the Department was represented at an all-day meeting between United Nations agencies and representatives of indigenous groups and provided, for distribution in English and Spanish to all participants, a two-page summary of the services the Department could provide indigenous groups during the Year and a list of the information material available from the Department for the Year.

13. In addition to the above, the Department has undertaken the following activities as part of its public information programme to promote the Year. All these activities are funded from the Department's regular budget:

(a) A multi-colour poster on the Year (DPI/1238) was produced in July in all six official languages; 17,000 copies have so far been distributed;

(b) An illustrated brochure on the aims and purposes of the Year (DPI/1249) was produced in July in all six official languages; 90,000 copies have so far been distributed and a reprint is now under way;

(c) An illustrated brochure on the Voluntary Fund for the Year (DPI/1313) containing information on how to contribute to the Fund and how to apply for a grant was produced in English, French and Spanish in November. More than 7,000 copies have so far been distributed. Arabic, Chinese and Russian versions will be available shortly;

(d) One-half of the press kit for the World Conference on Human Rights (mentioned in paragraph 7(c) above) contained materials on the Year. In addition to the two brochures mentioned above, this material includes the following background material: "Who Are the World's Indigenous People?" DPI/1296, "Promoting the Rights of Indigenous Peoples" (DPI/1248), "Treaties, Agreements and Constructive Arrangements: Indigenous Peoples and the Legal Landscape" (DPI/1295), "Indigenous People and Self Rule" (DPI/1293), "Indigenous Peoples and Intellectual and Cultural Property Rights" (DPI/1283) and "Indigenous Peoples, Environment and Development" (DPI/1294). There is also a map entitled "Where Indigenous Peoples Live" (DPI/1316) and two reproducible photostats of the logo designsfor the Year in all official languages. All these materials are also being distributed separately. The kit was distributed in English, French and Spanish to all UNICs and field offices in time for the launch of the Year on 10 December;

(e) A black-and-white print public service announcement (PSA) has been developed, based on the design of the poster for the Year, for free placement in magazines and newspapers. So far the ad has run in The New Yorker and Cultural Survival. A number of other publications, including Time, Newsweek, Business Week, Atlantic and Readers Digest have copies to run when space is available. United Nations Information Centres have been requested to place it in local or regional print media and members of the United Nations family have been asked to publish it in their periodicals;

(f) A number of UN in Action TV programmes produced by the Department for CNN World Report and for wider distribution featured issues related to indigenous people. On 6 December CNN broadcasted a "Special Report on Human Rights and Indigenous Peoples" to which the Department contributed an item about the launch of the Year;

(g) The Department will mount a major photographic exhibition for the Year in the public lobby of the General Assembly building at Headquarters during the last three months of 1993;

(h) A number of special events featuring indigenous people are being planned by the Department in cooperation with United Nations agencies, such as with UNESCO for Literacy Day and with UNEP for Environment Day;

(i) A chapter of the special human rights edition of Notes for Speakers (see paragraph 7(h) above) will be on indigenous people and one programme within the special eight-part radio documentary series on human rights (see paragraph 7(j) above) will focus on indigenous people.

C. Other activities

14. Other printed information produced by the Department in 1992 included "Declaration of the Right of Peoples to Peace" (DPI/844/Rev.1); "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women" (DPI/993); "Convention on the Rights of the Child" (DPI/1101); "Decolonization: The Task Ahead" (DPI/1109) about Decolonization" (DPI/1170); "Life of the Palestinians under Israeli Occupation" (DPI1192); "For the Rights of the Palestinian" (DPI/1304).

15. The 30-minute documentary film on human rights entitled "New Horizons for Human Rights", which the Department completed in English in 1991, is now also available in Arabic, French and Spanish.

16. Two thousand copies of the teaching guide which accompanies the About the United Nations: The Rights of the Child educational video which the Department completed in 1991, were reprinted in 1992 and a Greek version was completed with the assistance of UNIC Athens. This video kit is available in English, French and Spanish to academic institutions, non-governmental organizations and speakers on the United Nations.

17. Reprints of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in the official languages of the United Nations and in selected local languages, as well as of other international human rights instruments will continue in 1992-1993.

18. In keeping with its role as coordinator of the public information activities of the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights, the Department submitted a number of proposals to the eighteenth session of the Joint United Nations Information Committee held at Rome in July 1992 concerning joint projects to promote the World Conference on Human Rights and the International Year of the World's Indigenous People. A number of these will be undertaken during 1993.

19. The Department's publications UN Chronicle and Yearbook of the United Nations continued their regular coverage of the work of the Commission on Human Rights, the General Assembly and other relevant United Nations bodies. Likewise, Development Forum and Africa Recovery, as well as Objective: Justice, continued to devote news and feature articles to human rights, particularly as they related to developing countries.

20. The Department frequently covered human rights issues in its weekly briefings at Headquarters for non-governmental organizations in 1992. Considerably more briefings were devoted to human rights issues in 1992 than the previous year, reflecting the growing prominence of human rights on the United Nations agenda. The briefings regularly attracted between 100 and 200 participants representing the 1,200 non-governmental organizations worldwide that are associated directly with the Department. Several briefings, such as the "25th Anniversary of the Covenants on Human Rights", "Engendering Equality", "Peace, Justice and Development: Ingredients for an Emerging World Order" focused on human rights directly and two were dedicated to the International Year of the World's Indigenous People. Others dealt with human rights in the context of issues such as the United Nations Development Report, the International Day of the Elderly, the World Development Report, emergency relief and humanitarian assistance, major economic and social issues, Day of the African Child, prospects for South Africa, update on the World Summit for Children, Palestinian refugees, AIDS, and Issues before the forty-sixth session of the General Assembly, among others.

21. In addition to developing new information products about human rights and conducting regular briefings for non-governmental organizations and the media, the Department meets requests for documents and information material about human rights, develops contacts with the media, and cooperates with other United Nations offices and non-governmental organizations by participating in, co-sponsoring and/or organizing events.

22. The Department's Public Inquiries Unit received almost 4,000 requests for information on human rights in 1992 and the focal points on human rights and indigenous people in the Department's Communications and Project Management Division responded to numerous requests daily for human rights information and publications during 1992. The Dissemination Division of the Department distributed 273,000 copies of the Department's human rights publications in its bulk distribution and more than 500,000 additional copies by request during 1992. The Visitor's Service at Headquarters arranged for 83 briefings on human rights issues (including racial discrimination, women and apartheid as well as human rights in general) for a total of 2,709 visitors and arranged for 9 special film/video screenings for a total audience of 476 visitors. In addition, information on United Nations work in the field of human rights was given to around half a million visitors to United Nations Headquarters.

23. The Department regularly included information pertaining to human rights and related issues as part of its weekly radio programmes in official and non-official languages. More than 250 different items on human rights issues were produced as part of the Department's regular news programmes in a variety of languages for a total programming time of more than 23 hours. Human rights and related issues were also included in the Department's current affairs radio programmes, such as Perspective, a 15-minute weekly documentary programme which is broadcast by some 350 radio stations world-wide.

24. The Department's video and television programmes such as UN in Action and programmes produced for CNN World Report, which are seen weekly in more than 120 countries, also included human rights issues. World Chronicle, a weekly television programme produced by the Department, which is aired on over 150 channels around the United States and is regularly used by UNIC, especially in Brazil, Indonesia, Japan, the Philippines and Trinidad and Tobago, has featured guests prominent in the field of human rights.

25. During the past year the Department continued to give full press, radio and television coverage of the activities of the Organization concerning human rights, including the proceedings of all United Nations intergovernmental bodies dealing with human rights, such as the Commission on Human Rights and its various committees and working groups, the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Committee against Torture and the work of special rapporteurs. For example, the Department's Press Section issued 298 press releases in English and French on human rights issues, as well as 51 on apartheid, 38 on decolonization, 25 on racial discrimination and 46 on women. As in previous years, the United Nations Information Service at Geneva highlighted the work of the Commission on Human Rights and other human rights bodies meeting in Geneva. A report of the activities of UNIS Geneva is found in Section B below.

II. ACTIVITIES OF INFORMATION CENTRES AND SERVICES

A. United Nations Information Service at Geneva

26. Throughout 1992, UNIS continued to cover, through print, radio and audio-visual programmes, the proceedings of all United Nations intergovernmental bodies dealing with human rights which took place in Geneva. Over 12,000 publications on the general issue of human rights were distributed including 1,420 on racial discrimination, 60 on apartheid, 3,640 on children's rights, 1,400 on women's rights, 2,000 on the rights of indigenous peoples, 850 on torture and 4,000 on miscellaneous human rights subjects.

27. A total of 541 press releases (277 English, 264 French) on human rights questions were published. Copies of these releases were disseminated to the media and other targeted audiences. Approximately 100 press briefings, held twice weekly at UNOG, focussed on human rights issues in addition to special press conferences and interviews organized by the UNIS featuring human rights advocates and officials. UNIS also planned and organized specific events aimed at highlighting international days on human rights related issues.

28. Students attending the thirtieth Graduate Study Programme organized by UNIS in July 1992 for 66 graduate students from 44 countries, were briefed on United Nations action in the field of human rights. Discussions were also held on issues such as the rights of minorities and indigenous peoples, the rights of children, and the right to education.

3. Activities in support of the work of United Nations intergovernmental bodies dealing with human rights

29. As in previous years, UNIS at Geneva has highlighted the work of the Commission on Human Rights. In addition to the annual session meeting of the Commission on Human Rights, UNIS also promoted the two special sessions of the Commission on the situation of human rights in the territory of the former Yugoslavia (13-14 August and 30 November - 1 December 1992). The Department also publicized the annual session of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities as well as the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia.

30. These forums required the accreditation of over 450 journalists, in addition to the permanent press accredited at the United Nations Office at Geneva. Issues and policies discussed at the various sessions were highlighted at 23 press conferences and selected officials appeared before the media to answer journalists' questions. In addition, 20 briefings for non-governmental organizations were held specifically on these meetings.

31. The meetings also received audio-visual coverage by UNIS, including television news packages transmitted through television agencies such as VIS News, WTN and CNN; miscellaneous audio-visual material provided for non-governmental organizations for use in their

public information programmes; production of radio news reports; production of radio interviews and floor recordings of the Commission on Human Rights and its Sub-Commission; and production recordings of meetings and press conferences.

32. Coverage of sessions of human rights treaty bodies was extensive during 1992. Press officer teams from UNIS covered, in English and French, meetings of the following expert bodies: Committee Against Torture - eighth and ninth sessions; Board of trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Population - Fifth Session; Human Rights Committee - forty-fifth and forty-sixth sessions; Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination; Special Committee on Israeli Practices in the Occupied Territories; Preparatory Committee of the World Conference on Human Rights - second and third sessions; Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights- seventh Session; Commission of Experts Established Pursuant to Security Council Resolution 780 (1992); and the Committee on the Rights of the Child - Second Session.

33. Human rights activities were featured in the "Semaine Internationale/Weekly Review" prepared by the Service. NGO briefings with the Chairmen and Bureau members of these bodies were held regularly.

34. Over 500 press releases in English and in French were prepared by the Press Unit for dissemination at Geneva and elsewhere in the United Nations system. Press conferences were organized by the Information Service in connection with the work of all the above-mentioned expert bodies.

3. International human rights days and other special events

35. Two major commemorations were organized in 1992, to celebrate International Women's Day and Human Rights Day. Round table discussions marked both events. On International Women's Day 1992, which was observed on 6 March 1992, the panel included participants from several United Nations bodies and NGOs and focused on the theme "Human Rights: Advancing the Status of Women".

36. On Human Rights Day, 10 December 1992, a group of panelists, including the Director of the Centre for Human Rights and diplomats from the United States, Singapore, Cameroon and Colombia, made presentations on the subject of "Human Rights in 1993: New Frontiers" and discussed issues relating to this question.

37. Other activities in observance of special days included mounting documents, photographic and poster exhibitions; screening videos for various audiences; disseminating relevant information materials from Headquarters such as press kits, feature articles, background notes, press releases and official documents; organizing or assisting in events, meetings, public gatherings and briefings on human rights issues; and participating in seminars, panels and lectures for educational and other institutions.

D. Other Activities

38. The Information Service continued to represent the Department at special human rights meetings in Geneva, such as the Fourth Inter-Agency Meeting on Human Rights, the Technical Meeting on the International Year for the World's Indigenous People and the Third Inter-Agency Meeting on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples. UNIS has also been representing the Department at meetings of the Management Committee for the World Conference on Human Rights.

B. United Nations Information Centres and Services Worldwide

39. The network of 67 United Nations information centres and services also undertook special information activities in observance of Human Rights Day, inauguration of the International Year of the Worls's Indigenous People (1993) and other human rights events. Each centre received copies of the information kit on human rights and the indigenous people in time to distribute to media and NGOs prior to 10 December.

40. Many centres (including Asunción, Athens, Bogotá, Brazzaville, Bucharest, Dakar, Dhaka, Islamabad, Lagos, Lisbon, Lomé, Madrid, Manila, Rome, Sydney, Windhoek and Washington) reported extensive redissemination of the statement by the United Nations Secretary-General on Human Rights Day, which was distributed well in advance by the Department in print form and on video tapes and audio tapes to maximize its use throughout the world.

41. In Athens and Manila, statements pledging commitment to human rights were also presented by the respective Presidents of the Republics. In Bucharest, in addition to extensive media coverage, there were several meetings and symposia in observance of the Day attended by government officials, deputies, university professors, students, researchers, jurists, diplomats and UNIC staff.

42.In Dakar, the Day was celebrated in conjunction with the arts biennial which was dedicated to human rights "as tribute to the United Nations for its action in favour of the promotion of human rights all over the world" and marked by a huge ceremony on the island of Gorée, infamous centre of the slave trade.

43. In Islamabad, two leading daily papers, Muslim and News devoted full pages to Human Rights Day, publishing the material disseminated by the Centre. Other newspapers published the Secretary-General's statement which had been translated by the Centre into Urdu. In Lomé the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was printed in full in the national daily newspaper, Togo Presse.

44. In Madrid, considerable media attention was given to the premiere of a Canadian film production "Shadow of the Wolf" which UNIC organized to mark the opening of the International Year. The premiere was attended by its director, Jacques Dorfmann, the cast and high government officials, diplomats, media, NGOs and well-known personalities. In Rome, the Secretary-General's statement was translated into Italian and transmitted by Radio Vaticano, which broadcasts in 32 languages.

45. In Washington, D.C., the Centre co-hosted a reception for the Day with leading congressmen and Senators Kennedy and Kassebaum and attended by United Nations Under Secretary-Generals Eliasson and Grant. The latter, as head of UNICEF, called for unversal ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

46. The Department also provided seed money of up to US$ 3,000 per centre to support outreach projects proposed by several information centres aimed at promoting the World Conference on Human Rights. Some of these projects are listed here, together with a sampling of centre projects carried out during 1992.

47. In Asuncion, the Centre worked with UNDP to organize an international meeting on the relevance of human rights to economic and social development on 24-26 November. Participants included the regional director for UNDP's Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean, the UNDP Resident Representatives from Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua. and Peru, and as well as representatives of the Centre for Human Rights in Geneva, UNICEF, ILO, UNESCO, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and the local diplomatic corps. Organizers plan to submit the results of the meeting to the World Conference and prepare a brochure for local distribution.

48. The Bogotá Centre, together with the Colombian Presidential Council for Human Rights and the Centre for the Studies of Indigenous Languages of the University of the Andes, plans to translate the Universal Declaration of Human Rights into two indigenous languages to be selected on the basis of the size and prominence of the group. The Centre also expects to organize a one-day seminar on the World Conference for journalists and NGOs in March at its premises. In May, it hopes to conduct a one-day seminar on the International Year for indigenous peoples, politicians, NGOs and media representatives.

49. in Bucharest, the Centre assisted the Romanian Association for Humanitarian Law and the Human Rights Committee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to prepare a 421-page book containing the main United Nations conventions and documents concerning human rights. It also helped the Romanian Independent Society for Human Rights to reprint the ABC Teaching Human Rights in Romanian.

50. In Copenhagen, the Centre has arranged with the Danish Centre for Human Rights to reprint in full the Department's media kit on human rights and indigenous people in Danish. It is working closely with the Centre and other Danish NGOs to organize events and an information campaign around the World Conference and the International Year during 1993.

51. In Lagos, the Centre is planning a moving theatre production on women's rights in cooperation with the National Theatre to promote the World Conference. It expects to produce a video of the play for television broadcast in West Africa and possibly the rest of English-speaking Africa.

52. In Lisbon, the centre proposes to organize a seminar involving all the Portuguese government and non-governmental institutions active in the field of human rights. It hopes to reprint the Department's booklet "International Bill of Human Rights" in Portuguese for release at the

53. In Manila. aside from promoting extensive coverage of human rights and the International Year in the local press, the Centre's information officer also addressed the first Human Rights Intermediate Course of the National Council of Churches held from 3-6 November at Iloilo City. Participants included priests, pastors, lay ministers and church workers from the region. The course was designed to provide theparticipants with the fundamentals of paralegal techniques for filing complaints of human rights abuses and to be equipped to document actual cases of human rights violations in their own localities. The Centre provided the participants with copies of various human rights documents and during the workshops several United Nations films were shown, including "Doctors in the Sky", "Impossible Dream", "The UN for a Better Future" and others.

54. In Sydney, the Centre is organizing a one-day information seminar for the local NGO community in conjunction with the UNHCR and UNICEF offices in Australia as well as in Fiji. It may combine this event with a seminar to mark the International Year, due to the great interest in the Australian Aboriginal people.

55. The information centres continued to report their ongoing efforts to collect information about the work of the United Nation in human rights, to disseminate relevant materials from Headquarters such as information and press kits, background notes, press releases and official documents and to translate them into local languages, as appropriate; to organize or assist in events, meetings, public gatherings and briefings; to participate in seminars, panels and lectures for educational and other institutions; and to give interviews to local media.